

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method of lowering blood pressure, comprising administering to a mammal suffering from hypertension isohumulones[[,]] or ~~a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

13. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of preventing, treating or ameliorating hypertension, comprising administering to a mammal suffering from or at risk of hypertension isohumulones[[,]] ~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

14. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of improving or ameliorating vascular flexibility, comprising administering to a mammal isohumulones[[,]] ~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

15. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of improving or ameliorating vascular endothelial function, comprising administering to a mammal isohumulones[[,]] ~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

16. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of dilating blood vessels or accelerating blood flow, comprising administering to a mammal isohumulones[[,]] ~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the isohumulones are selected from the group consisting of isohumulone, isoadhumulone, isocohumulones, and combinations thereof.

Claims 18-23 (Canceled)

24. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A food for lowering blood pressure, comprising isohumulones[[,]]~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

25. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A food for preventing, treating, or ameliorating hypertension, comprising isohumulones[[,]]~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

26. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A food for improving or ameliorating vascular flexibility, comprising isohumulones[[,]]~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

27. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A food for improving or ameliorating vascular endothelial function, comprising isohumulones[[,]]~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

28. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A food ~~Food~~ for dilating blood vessels or accelerating blood flow, comprising isohumulones[[,]]~~or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract.

29. (Withdrawn) The food according to claim 24, wherein the isohumulones are selected from the group consisting of isohumulone, isoadhumulone, isocohumulones, and combinations thereof.

30. (Withdrawn) The food according to claim 24, wherein the isohumulones are provided daily in a range of 30 mg to 6000 mg on the basis of an amount of isohumulones.

31. (Withdrawn) The food according to claim 24, which is in the form of a drink.

32. (Withdrawn) The food according to claim 31, wherein the drink is a non-alcohol drink.

33. (Withdrawn) The food according to claim 24, which is a health food, a functional food, a food for specific health use, or a food for patients.

34. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A non-alcohol drink comprising isohumulones~~[[,]]or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract, wherein the isohumulones, or a hop extract and/or an isomerized hop extract are provided daily in a range of 30 mg to 6000 mg on the basis of an amount of isohumulones.

35. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The non-alcohol drink according to claim 34, wherein the isohumulones~~[[,]]or a hop extract~~ and/or an isomerized hop extract are provided daily in a range of 60 mg to 3000 mg on the basis of an amount of isohumulones.

36. (Withdrawn) The non-alcohol drink according to claim 34, which is a tea drink.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, in which isomerized hop extract is administered to the mammal.

38. (New) A method of lowering blood pressure, comprising administering to a mammal suffering from hypertension a composition consisting essentially of isohumulones and/or an isomerized hop extract.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition consists essentially of isohumulones.